

[illegible]

1                    1.    The method of preparing an animal for use as  
2    a specimen in ischemic optic nerve disease research  
3    comprising the steps of employing photosensitizing agents  
4    injected into the body of the specimen, and  
5                    irradiating the optic nerve with energy from  
6    a laser to damage capillaries feeding the anterior portion  
7    of the optic nerve.

1                    2.    The method of preparing an animal according  
2    to claim 1 wherein  
3                    for rats the laser for irradiating the optic  
4    nerve has approximately a 500 to 600 micron size spot at 50  
5    microwatts.

1                    3.    The method of preparing an animal according  
2    to claim 2 wherein  
3                    the spot is directed to the optic nerve for  
4    approximately 7 to 30 seconds determined primarily by the  
5    retinal artery occlusion desired and under standard  
6    conditions, preferably 15 seconds.

1           4.     The method of preparing an animal according  
2     to claim 1 wherein  
3           the laser is an argon green laser.

